

Classroom Innovation in Mathematics Grant

Fast Facts

Eligible Applicants: Local educational agencies (LEAs) (i.e., public school districts, including charter schools that are considered LEAs under state law). The application should be completed by the district office and must include assurances for implementation from math department heads at each of the secondary school campuses, ensuring 100% of mathematics teachers will participate. Priority will be given to districts that include *all* secondary campuses in the plan.

Funding Source: The Classroom Innovation in Mathematics Grant is funded through the Senator David C. Ford education technology fund. These funds are dedicated to projects that extend technologies to elementary and secondary schools. For this funding cycle, the Department of Education (IDOE) has targeted school technology programs that integrate innovative instructional technologies into the mathematics curriculum.

Purpose: From 2005 to 2009, state scores in mathematics were stagnant, rising only one percentage point over the four-year span. At the state level, IDOE is currently exploring new, innovative classroom strategies to push mathematics in Indiana forward. One such strategy is the integration of digital curriculum and technology into traditional teaching methodologies.

The purpose of the program is to provide a select number of LEAs with the opportunity to use digital mathematics curricula and interactive white boards in lieu of traditional textbooks. Digital curriculum such as those listed below would need to utilize innovative strategies for instruction and represent a significant break from the traditional textbook-oriented instruction. The digital curriculum would not serve as a standalone, online course that replaces the classroom teacher. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies, awards will be limited to schools that propose plans for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, and/or Algebra I. The results of this pilot program will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of digital curriculum and provide data for schools that may consider adopting digital mathematics curricula in the future.

Examples of Digital Curriculum (this list is not exhaustive):

- Agile Mind (www.agilemind.com)
- Compass Learning (www.compasslearning.com)

Application Availability: The anticipated date of release of the Classroom Innovation Grant Application is Wednesday, March 17, 2010.

Application Deadline Date: April 16, 2010

Application Submission: Applicants should submit four hard copies to IDOE for review.

Estimated Date of Award: Grantees will be announced on May 19, 2010.

Project Period: July 2010 – June 2011

Estimated Available Funds: \$2,000,000.00

Estimated Amount of Awards: The grant will provide districts with up to \$30 per student enrolled in a course taught with digital curriculum and up to \$300 per teacher for professional development. For a school including Algebra in the digital curriculum plan, the grant will also provide funds to set up Acuity Algebra, up to \$4,500 to set up the assessment and up to \$8.75 per student tested in Algebra. Additionally, the grant will provide funds for districts to purchase interactive white boards, up to \$3,500 per teacher for each mathematics teacher who will be using the digital curriculum. The grant will provide up to \$25,000 for each school offering Algebra I in 7th and/or 8th grade to add computers and infrastructure to meet the requirement that Acuity assessments be given online and middle school students take the Algebra I ECA test using the online assessment. In addition, middle schools are expected to include all students in online ISTEP+ testing. The funding would be available for the 2010-11 school year.

Estimated Number of Awards: Up to 20 LEAs

Assurances: If awarded a Classroom Innovation Grant, a district agrees to use the selected digital curriculum for all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade mathematics courses, and/or Algebra I. At least 80% of core material should be taught through the digital curriculum the district chooses. To assess results, the district agrees to use online Acuity Assessments for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and online Acuity Algebra Assessments for Algebra students. Assessments designed for this pilot program may be developed within Acuity, or Predictive tests may be used. Only districts that currently use or have applied to use Acuity will be considered. Schools must provide the computer hardware needed for the program. This could include a teacher computer with internet access and connectivity to an interactive whiteboard and a computer lab for student use once per week, or provision of computers for all students for daily use. Schools must test 7th and 8th grade students who are taking Algebra I using the online Algebra ECA and are expected to test all students online for ISTEP+, unless a school can demonstrate inability to test all students online. In that case, partial credit may be awarded to a school that proposes to test a portion of students online for ISTEP+. Teachers must attend and implement PD on interactive whiteboards, the selected digital content, and the use of Acuity data to guide instruction. Additional assurances will be included in the full application on or about March 17, 2010.

Notice of Intent to Apply: IDOE will be able to develop a more efficient process for reviewing grant applications if it has a better understanding of the number of LEAs that intend to apply for funding through this competition. Therefore, IDOE strongly encourages each potential applicant to notify IDOE by sending a brief e-mail message indicating the applicant's intent to submit an application for funding with names of vendors proposed for review. The e-mail does not need to include information regarding the content of the proposed application. E-mail notifications should be sent by March 26 to Dr. Schauna Findlay, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, at sfindlay@doe.in.gov. **Applicants that do not provide prior email notification to IDOE may still apply for funding.**

Webinars: In order to answer questions related to the application and process, IDOE will be hosting a Webinar on March 17 at 10:00 am (Details provided below).

1. Go to <https://indiana-doe.webex.com/indiana-doe/j.php?S=642718601>
 2. Log in to your account.
 3. Click "Start Now."
 4. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen.
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The Webinar will be recorded for those not available at that time and will be available at <http://www.doe.in.gov/olt/classroominnovationgrants.html>.

Additionally, IDOE will help facilitate Webinars between districts and vendors during the process. To help with this process, a *Notice of Intent to Apply* e-mail should include a list of possible vendors that the district is considering for use. Below are brief program descriptions and webinar dates for two possible vendors. As districts inform IDOE of other vendors they are interested in reviewing, IDOE will review the vendor and determines its eligibility under the state's criteria. If the vendor meets the criteria, IDOE will make webinars available with that vendor.

Competition Manager: Zach Foughty, Secondary Math Specialist, zfoughty@doe.in.gov.



Agile Mind Webinar Presentation

Session 1: Thursday March 18, 2010 -- 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. EST

Session 2: Tuesday March 23, 2010 – 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST

This webinar highlights an innovative program from Agile Mind: the **Middle and High School Mathematics Initiative**, which promotes high achievement in mathematics. Among other aspects, it will provide an overview of how this highly research-based solution effectively addresses the challenging, yet vital transition from middle to high school mathematics.

Authored by the Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin, the Agile Mind programs offer a system of online tools for supporting classroom instructional practices, meeting the professional development needs of teachers, and offering structured, interactive supports for students. Key components include:

- Mathematics course content and presentation tools
- High-quality formative assessments
- Embedded professional development
- Robust real-time reporting

The **Mathematics Initiative** focuses on several strategic outcomes:

- Raising student achievement in mathematics by providing interactive, standards-based mathematics instructional content and assessments
- Increasing student engagement through the use of animations and real-life connections
- Strengthening teacher effectiveness by supporting
 - Conceptual approaches to teaching mathematics,
 - The integration of multiple representations into daily practice, and
 - A functions-based foundation across grades to promote success in the teaching and learning of algebra.

We look forward to your participation. Please register at:

Session 1: Thursday March 18, 2010 -- 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. EST

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/443859289>

Session 2: Tuesday March 23, 2010 – 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/200023849>

Thank you,

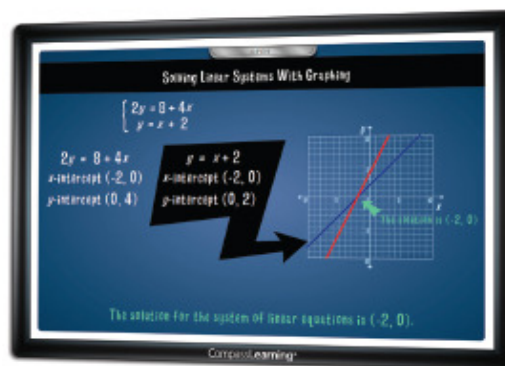
Brian D. Caldicott
Midwest Director of School Partnerships

CompassLearning Algebra Readiness Solutions for Indiana Schools

CompassLearning's online math solutions assess student performance, automatically prescribe appropriate curriculum activities to help increase students' academic performance, and report the progress of students individually and in groups.

Odyssey Math provides:

- A browser-based program developed using the latest research in education, psychology, and neuroscience. Courses include Math 6, Math 7, Math 8, Honors Algebra, and Algebra I.
- Engaging lessons that include video presentations, animation, sound, text, interactive tools, and immediate feedback. Printable worksheets accompany lessons.
- Online content regulated by a single management system.
- A range of pre- and post-formative (benchmark), summative, and end-of-course assessments, with diagnostic/prescriptive capabilities.
- A3 Access: Anytime, Anywhere, for All students.
- Synchronous delivery that allows each student to enter and exit the application at any time and work at his or her own pace.



To learn more about Odyssey Math,
attend one of our informational webinars:

Monday, March 29 at 2 P.M. Eastern Time
Wednesday, March 31 at 2 P.M. Eastern Time
Monday, April 5 at 2 P.M. Eastern Time
Wednesday, April 7 at 2 P.M. Eastern Time

You can access the webinar by going to

https://admin.na3.acrobat.com/_a747902600/clwebinar/

**If you have any questions,
please contact:**

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